



State of Connecticut  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
**Commission on Children**



## Parent Involvement Checklist

Substantive parent interest can improve quality, enhance staff morale, expand contacts, increase public demand for quality, and enrich public awareness of child development issues. The following checklist offers steps for bringing parents aboard as partners in your agency.

- ☐ Develop a plan to invite interested parents in for creative “brainstorming” activities.
- ☐ Ensure that both fathers and mothers participate.
- ☐ Generate an intergenerational view of issues.
- ☐ Assess the skills and training needs of participating parents.
- ☐ Create tasks that truly utilize the assets and contacts of parents.
- ☐ Ask parents to take on a specific leadership roles in their neighborhoods, churches, etc.
- ☐ Record and review all input from parents throughout planning and implementation.
- ☐ Create methods of introducing parents to other parents and professionals.
- ☐ Offer training to parents and staff members in the civic skills necessary to attain goals.
- ☐ Develop environments where parents speak and lead staff meetings on specified issues.
- ☐ Seek group and individual feedback.
- ☐ Provide policy training that can be used beyond the current project.
- ☐ Minimize jargon. Use words that fully describe and bring purpose and spirit to the issue.
- ☐ Bring in leaders to speak on an issue and interact with parents.
- ☐ Create community talk shows and forums where parents play key roles.
- ☐ Seek written assessments from parents, then use them to determine next steps.
- ☐ Create a group and staff environment that connects to family, neighborhood, and daily life to bridge heart and soul of children’s programs and policy.

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